ever ſaw. Some Ladies were then paſſing by; ſo I ſent him off in Haſte, and have not ſeen him ſince.

I have either heard or read of one Inſtance of this kind before.

I ſhall make no Apology for giving you the Trouble of this long Letter, but that of aſſuring you that I am with great Sincerity

Your Lordſhip's
moſt obedient,
humble Servant,

ROBERT CORKE.

XVII. *Extracts of Two Letters from the Revd Dean* Copping, F. R. S. *to the* Preſident, *concerning the* Cæſarian *Operation performed by an ignorant Butcher; and concerning the extraordinary* Skeleton *mentioned in the foregoing Article.*

SIR, Dublin, March 16. 1737-8.

I Have tranſcribed a Caſe, which I received from a young Clergyman, who ſome time ſtudied Phyſic, and knows the Woman: I ſhall probably ſee her at *Clogher*, where ſhe now lives. The Caſe happened within theſe Two Years, but I cannot learn the exact Date at preſent.

Sarah Mc Kinna, who now lives at *Brentram*, Two Miles from the City of *Clogher*, in the County of

of *Tyrone*, was married at the Age of Sixteen Years. ——Before her Marriage ſhe never had the Appearance peculiar to Women; but, in a Month after her Marriage, thoſe Appearances ſhewed themſelves properly. Ten Months after her Marriage, ſhe found the Symptoms of Pregnancy, and bore a Child at the Expiration of the uſual Time. Ten Months after, ſhe was delivered of another; and each time had a ſpeedy and eaſy Delivery.

Two Months after her ſecond Lying-in, Symptoms of Pregnancy appeared again, and increaſed in Proportion to the Time; but at the End of Nine Months thoſe Symptoms began to dwindle, and in a little time ſhe had no other Reaſon for thinking ſhe was with Child, but an abſolute Stoppage of her *Catamenia:* Nor had ſhe, during the Space of Six Years and ſome Months, any one Return of them; but for the greateſt Part of that Time, eſpecially the Four firſt Years, ſhe was perpetually afflicted with moſt violent Pains in the middle Region of the *Abdomen.*

Some time in the Seventh Year after her laſt Pregnancy, which ended in ſuch an unuſual Manner, a Swelling in her Belly, and other Symptoms, made her conclude ſhe was again pregnant.

About Seven Months after this uncertain Account, a Boil, as ſhe thought, appeared about an Inch and an half higher than her Navel.

During this time of her Pregnancy ſhe often found the Symptoms of her being quick with Child, till about Six Weeks before this Boil (as ſhe calls it) appeared. It was attended with very great Pain.

She ſent for one *Turlogh* [*Terence*] *O Neill*, a Butcher, who then did, and does now live with Capt. *George*

George Gledſtanes, about a Mile from *Clogher*. This Man came to her the *Sunday* after her Meſſage, and found her in an expiring Condition. By this time the Impoſtumation (which ſhe apprehended to be a Boil) had broken, and an Elbow of the Child had forced itſelf through it, and appeared in View. At the Requeſt of herſelf and Friends, he undertook to adminiſter Relief to her, and made ſo large an Inciſion above and below the Navel, as enabled him, by fixing his Fingers under the Jaw of the *Fœtus*, to extract it; in which Operation he met not with the leaſt Impediment. He afterwards looked into her Belly, and ſeeing ſomething black, he put in his Hand, and extracted, by Pieces, a perfect Skeleton of a Child, and ſeveral Pieces of black putrefied Fleſh. After the Operation, he ſwathed her up; and in Six Weeks ſhe purſued her domeſtic Buſineſs.

She has been in good Health ever ſince this wonderful Accident happened; only ſhe has a Navel-rupture, owing to the Ignorance of the Man in not applying a proper Bandage. I am, *&c.*

J. Copping.

Clogher (Ireland) June 2. 1738.

—I Have ſeen the Woman, of whom I ſent you the ſurpriſing Account, with her Husband, and inquired more particularly into the Fact; but hope to be ſtill a little more particular, when I ſee the Man who extracted the Child. They are ſo ignorant, that, with their bad Language, I could not make myſelf quite Maſter of what they ſaid; but, if they ſpeak true, there is ſomething more ſurpriſing than the former

former Account mentioned: For the ſeveral Parts of the latter, or rather the former, *Fœtus*, were extracting by Degrees, from *July* to *Chriſtmas*.

She had, by their Account, been married about Eight or Ten Years before her firſt Pregnancy.

As well as I could apprehend them, ſhe had a Midwife at the proper Time, in her firſt Pregnancy, for Eight Days, Day and Night: When the Symptoms diſappeared, the Swelling decreaſed, and People concluded there was no Child.

This Child was carried for Seven Years, till ſhe had been again pregnant for Nine Months; about which time there was a Swelling in her Navel about the Bigneſs of a Gooſe-egg, which broke in a ſmall Orifice, of itſelf, and diſcharged a watry Humour.

She had a Midwife, and Three or Four Phyſicians, who gave her over, and left her as a dying Woman. From this Orifice ſtarted the Elbow of a Child, which hung ſome Days by the Skin, viſible to abundance: At length ſhe cut it off for her own Relief.

When *O Neile* came, (whom I have not yet ſeen, but ſhall ſoon) ſhe begged him to help her. The Man was frightened, and went to ſleep; but, when he got up, gave her a large Draught of Sack, and, I ſuppoſe, took one himſelf; when he opened the Place, and made ſuch a Hole as the Man deſcribes to be as large as his Hat. He put in his Hand, took hold of the Second Bone of the Child, and, pulling it backward and forward to looſen it, in a little time extracted the Child. After this, looking into the Hole, and ſeeing ſomething black, he put in his Hand, and extracted other Bones. Some Bones ſtill remained, which, as I ſaid, were extracted at different times, it

ſeems

ſeems too in different ways; for ſome came by the Navel, others from the Womb the natural Way. She had great Pain at each time.

The former Account ſays, ſhe purſued her domeſtic Buſineſs: She might be about the Houſe, but ſhe was 15 Months confined to the Houſe. I have examined the Rupture, and can put a Finger a pretty Way up into the Body. Mr. *Dobbs*, I hear, an eminent Surgeon at *Dublin*, thinks there may be Relief, and that the Rupture may be much helped, and the Guts reduced. I queſtion whether he will think ſo, when he ſees her. However, I have collected about Four Pounds for her among the Gentlemen that viſit my Lord Biſhop, ſhall buy her ſome Cloaths, and ſend her to *Dublin* about 10 Days hence, to the Infirmary. She was fond of going, but her ignorant Prieſt, and ſome other ignorant Neighbours, told her they would keep her till ſhe dies: But, upon my anſwering thoſe Difficulties, ſhe conſents to go; her Husband will carry her; and they are ſo thankful to me for entering ſo much into their Condition, that they now ſay ſhe ſhall go to *London*, or where-ever I pleaſe. I am ſorry the ſeveral Bones extracted were carried away by different Phyſicians, that I cannot procure one to be ſent to you; which, with the Account, might find a Place in your ſurpriſing Collection.

I have wrote ſo long a Letter, that, by way of Apology, and to make ſome Amends, I muſt make it ſtill longer by another Account, which a worthy Clergyman gave me by Strength of Memory, from the Letter of a Phyſician to him.

William

William Clark, a poor Man of the County of *Corke*, about 18 Years of Age, complained of a Stiffneſs in his Joints, which by Degrees increaſed till it came to an univerſal *Anchyloſis:* That is, all his Joints were immoveable or oſſified. He lived in this Condition 38 Years, and Dr. *Barry*, the Phyſician at *Corke*, has made a Skeleton of him; and his Account of it is this [ſee TAB. V. Fig. 1. 2.]: Not one Bone in his Body has the natural Form; for all his Joints are immoveable and oſſified: And ſuch a luxuriant Diſpoſition had all the Humours of his Body to turn into Bone, that many little Branches of Bone, like Coral, ſpring from the Joints and ſeveral Parts of the Body. The whole Spine is oſſified, and one intire Arch of Bone there is from the *Occiput* down to the *Os Sacrum*; out of which ariſes a very protuberant Bone, which ſerves as a fine Handle to the Skeleton. A ſharp Horn, like a Cock's Spur, grew out of his Heel every Year. The Extract concludes thus: "It is as difficult to give a particular and exact "Deſcription of this curious *Memento mori*, as of "*Calypſo*'s Grotto." I am promiſed very ſoon a complete Hiſtory of his Life, and I ſhall endeavour to tranſmit *William Clark*'s Name to future Ages.

Signed,

John Copping.

TAB. V.

Fig. 1. *The Front of the Skeleton.*
2. *The Back-ſide of it.*

Fig. 1.

Fig. 2.

Feet 4 3 2 1

J. Mynde del. et sc.